

PROVIDER QUICKSHEET: LYME DISEASE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SELECTING LABORATORY TESTS

1. CDC recommends a two-tier approach for testing serological specimens: IFA/EIA antibody screen, followed by IgM and IgG western blot if IFA/EIA is positive or equivocal.
2. Other CDC recommended diagnostic assays for Lyme disease include:
 - a. A positive culture for *Borrelia burgdorferi*
 - b. Single-tier IgG western blot
 - c. CSF antibody positive for *B. burgdorferi* by EIA or IFA, when the titer is higher than it was in serum

THE USE OF SINGLE-TIER IGM WESTERN BLOT TESTING IS NOT RECOMMENDED

RESOURCES FOR PATIENTS

- CDC website has several brochures and info sheets for patients: <http://www.cdc.gov/lyme/>.
- MedLine Plus website contains several categories of information from credible sources: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/lymedisease.html>.

RESOURCES FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

- CDC has a “Resources for Clinicians” page available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/lyme/healthcare/clinicians.html>
- Information about two-tier testing for Lyme disease is available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/lyme/diagnostesting/LabTest/TwoStep/index.html>
- The Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA) has developed a FREE online CME case study about the diagnosis and management of Lyme disease available at: <http://lymecourse.idsociety.org/>
- The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) provides a diagnostic guideline to aid healthcare providers in diagnosing Lyme disease available at: <http://www.aafp.org/afp/2005/0715/p297.pdf>
- The West Virginia Department of Health and Resources provides information about the state’s Lyme disease surveillance system as well as links to useful resources available at: <http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/Zoonosis/Tick/Pages/Lyme.aspx>

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